

A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ONE AND ALL

EXCELLENT TRADE OUTLOOK
BRADSTREET'S VERY OPTIMISTIC
1910 PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT

A Review of the Past Year Shows That Business in All Lines Has Steadily Improved and That the Recuperation Begun the Previous Year Has Been Fully Realized—Crops Excellent and Money Easy—A Rosy Report.

If the activity confidently looked for eventuates, active money markets and firm rates would seem probable. Indeed, the calm in speculation after earlier activity resulting in new high record price levels is taken by some to indicate that the securities markets have already discounted much of the future. Conservatism and tact in dealing with the labor situation and with the politico-economic questions which are pressing for solution would seem necessary if what now looks like a very excellent trade outlook is to be fully realized in 1910.—Extract from Bradstreet's Report.

[Special to The Advertiser]
New York, Jan. 1.—Bradstreet has issued the following statement:

Nineteen hundred and nine may be said in many respects to have equalled and in some directions surpassed the most sanguine expectations entertained at its outset. In fact, it will take rank as a remarkable year in a decade which has seen great changes, and wonderful progress. For one thing, it witnessed processes of recuperation and repair, initiated in the second half of 1908, carried to a triumphant conclusion. Also, while it will probably not be classed as a boom year, it saw many records of financial and industrial achievement exceeded, and at its close, two years after a world-wide financial panic, the progress made has been so great that many of the scars made by that convulsion have been effaced, and the country seems to have been placed in a stronger position than it ever before occupied.

Great Progress.

Great progress is often made against great obstacles, and 1909 was not free from unsettling and disturbing influences. While its outset found the business world cheerful to the point of optimism, there were some evidences of uneasiness as to the reality of all the improvement shown in the year following the 1907 panic. Certainly the tariff revision, then impending, was not at the outset regarded as a helpful element. There was, in fact, a good deal of repression evident early because of tariff, crop and trade uncertainty, and reduced public purchasing power, and later the remarkable advances of securities and commodities to hitherto unexampled heights, furnished ground for conservatism, which was no doubt beneficial in preventing excesses, apparently inseparable from great weakness in American trade, finance, and industry. Withal, however, there was evidenced an almost inexhaustible capacity for looking on the bright side of things which made for fresh triumphs, and for a virtual new birth of aggressiveness in pushing enterprises forward toward successful futures.

Collapse of 1907.

The events of the year tended to confirm earlier impressions that the great collapse of 1907 was a purely financial affair, not involving any great weakness in the business and industrial structure. Whatever may be said of the merits of the year's tariff revision there is no denying that the work was skillfully done with a minimum of disturbance to trade, and with uncertainty as to this removed in mid-year, the optimism in the stock markets, the ease of money, the preparations for a good results from abundant harvests, the steady monthly reduction in business mortality and failure damage, the expansion in leading industries, the boom in that readiest of all ready-money producing trades—building—and the preparations made to fill the void in the consuming markets made by two years of repression in buying all combined to cause a great upward surge in all lines of trade, which, despite the steadily increased cost of all that enters into human consumption, resulted in a total trade turnover which will compare very favorably with the best that was witnessed in previous years of abundant prosperity.

Agriculture Prospered.

That great backlog of all of the country's interests—agriculture—prospered as never before, not so much in the matter of quantity, because bumper crops were few, but in the matter of financial returns, which, indeed, placed the farmers of the country in a class by themselves. It is true that the price advances bore hardly on the consuming classes, and there was shown in the utterances of public men and journals a disposition to question the reality of all the apparent benefits that flowed from high prices.

Some Results of the Year in Trade.
The crops of the year, taken as a whole, were not so good as in 1908.

HANDS FROZEN
CLINGING TO CAR

Mr. R. Jordan, a Traveller, Had Terrible Ride From Chesley to Tara.

MOST PECULIAR MISHAP

Train Puled Out as He Attempted to Get In, But the Vestibule Was Closed.

R. Jordan, a traveller, who was going from Owen Sound to Huronville on Grand Trunk Express No. 66 on Wednesday night, had both his hands terribly frozen in one of the most peculiar accidents that ever occurred in this district.

Mr. Jordan left the train for a few minutes when it pulled into Chesley in order that he might speak to a bus driver there. While he was talking the train started, and although he ran back as quickly as possible the vestibule doors were closed and he was unable to get in.

Thinking that he would be able to attract attention and get in all right, Mr. Jordan held on until the express was going so fast that to jump meant certain injury.

BURGLAR AT CHATHAM
SQUEALED ON HIS PALS

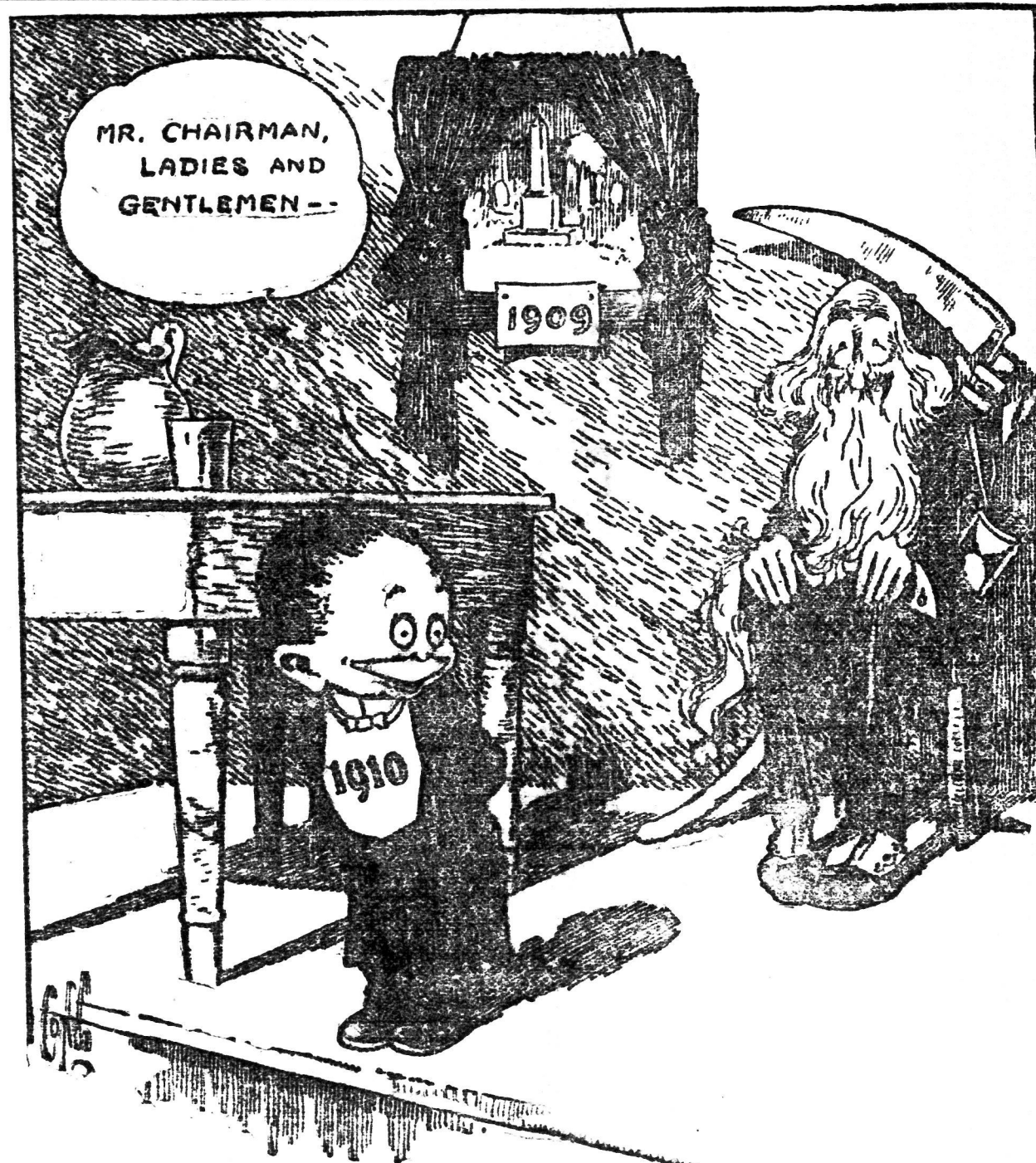
Three Charged With Many Recent Thefts Have Pleaded Guilty.

Chatham, Ont., Dec. 31.—A big police round-up was made at 1 o'clock this morning, when Charles Coleman, Lloyd Johnson, Wilbur Johnson and Arthur Ray, perpetrators of six recent burglaries in this city, were arrested. When arraigned before Magistrate Houston they pleaded guilty to all charges and were remanded one week for sentence. Coleman is the leader of the gang and after his arrest "squealed" on his pals.

TOURIST AGENT WANTED.

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Detective Gorman has gone to London, Eng., to bring back to Canada an employee of "Coke's" tourist agency, named Whitefield, under arrest there charged with embezzling the firm's funds. The nominal charge against the man is stealing \$50.

P. O. Home Board.
The Protestant Orphans' Home board will meet on Monday afternoon at 3 o'clock in the home.

CUSTOMS RECEIPTS INCREASE
30 PER CENT OVER LAST YEAR

Figures for the Port of London Are Extremely Satisfactory—
Total Collections for 1909 Are \$898,301.87.

The customs returns for the month just past show one of the largest increases of the year, and are more than 30 per cent greater than they were in the same month last year. The figures, which totalled \$79,569.82, indicate that trade in all branches is in a most flourishing condition. In December, 1908, the total receipts were \$59,377.65, or \$20,192.17 less than for December of 1909.

The total receipts for the year are \$898,301.87, close upon \$900,000, as against only \$783,312.64 last year. During the year 1909 the receipts were no less than \$114,989.23 greater than during the year previous. This is one of the most satisfactory increases ever recorded in London.

The Figures.

The returns for the different months of 1908 and 1909 are as follows:

	1909.	1908.
January	\$81,923.66	\$99,148.43
February	67,067.35	65,891.53
March	79,716.14	76,316.81
April	62,822.74	60,224.89
May	68,860.05	49,973.72
June	71,222.61	55,286.65
July	74,088.18	65,335.78
August	80,946.11	74,762.60
September	80,978.54	59,222.05
October	74,469.53	55,197.83
November	78,036.14	62,014.64
December	79,569.82	59,377.65
Totals	\$898,301.87	\$783,312.64

INSPECTOR GALPIN
CONTRADICTS STORY

Says the Hotels of London Are Properly Equipped With Fire Escapes.

A writer in a recent number of the "Hotels and Travel Magazine," says that in London, St. Thomas and other provincial cities he found the hotels sadly lacking in proper provision for saving life in case of a fire, and that in many of them the regulation requiring all rooms to be equipped with specified lengths of rope firmly attached to the floor for use in case of emergency is ignored.

BISHOP PREZEAU DEAD

A Former Ottawa Priest Passes Away in Central Africa.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—News has just been received here of the death of Mgr. Auguste Prezeau, vicar apostolic of Shire, Nyassaland, British Central Africa, and a former Ottawa priest. The late Bishop Prezeau had returned to France from his diocese in Africa last spring to attend a general chapter of the Fathers of the Company of Mary, of which community he was a member. Shortly after returning to his home in France he developed appendicitis, for which he had to be operated on, never fully recovering.

MAN DROPS DEAD
ON WATFORD STREET

William Anderson Had Come From the West to Attend Father's Funeral.

Watford, Ont., Dec. 31.—William G. Anderson, eldest son of the late George Anderson, of Brooke Township, dropped dead on Main street this afternoon. He had only been in town a few minutes and was apparently in his usual health. Deceased was only 25 years of age and came down from Saskatchewan a few weeks ago to attend the funeral of his father.

CANADA TO REPAY
THE LOAN OF 1885

Finance Minister Takes Advantage of Twenty-Five Years' Option.

Ottawa, Dec. 31.—The minister of finance has decided to repay the loan of four million pounds sterling, issued in 1885 in London. The original loan was for 50 years at 4 per cent, with the option of repayment in 25 years at six months' notice. It will be repaid July 1 next, a striking note of the favorable money conditions in Canada.

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EXPLOSION VICTIM DIES.

Galt, Dec. 31.—Charles Fruere, the carpenter, who was so seriously injured in the gas explosion which almost wrecked his dwelling on Beverley street last Saturday night, died in the Galt hospital from the effects of the accident. Pneumonia developed, causing death in a few hours.

The other victim, who was injured at the same time, is still living, with fair prospects for recovery.

CAMPAIGN HAS
BEEN VERY QUIET

People Have Heard a Great Deal and Today Will Press the Button.

MR. ECKERT AND SLATE

Was Struck Off the Ticket of the Municipal League—Stands Alone and Has No Connections, He Says.

The balloting today will wind up one of the quietest municipal campaigns in the history of the city. Since nomination day definitely settled the field, practically no interest has been taken in the selection of candidates, and little or no excitement has marked the choice of the governors of the city for the coming year.

A little flurry occurred at the finish of the canvassing. For some time Mr. R. C. Eckert has been on the slate of the Municipal League. In the literature sent out he was quite a prominent figure, until yesterday. Then an advertisement was printed to the effect that "Mr. Eckert is no longer endorsed by this league."

The incident caused a great deal of comment, and many inquiries were made concerning the reasons for his withdrawal from the endorsed candidates.

On Another Slate.
It seems that Mr. Eckert was not one of those first taken up by the league. At practically the last moment he was nominated, and was endorsed by the league.

A few days ago his name appeared on another slate, and this led to inquiries on behalf of the league, and Mr. Eckert was asked to subscribe to the principles of the league. This had not been asked him in the first instance. Mr. Eckert refused, and his check was returned, and the public was informed that Mr. Eckert was not any longer an endorsed candidate of the league.

Mr. Eckert's Statement.
"I refused to sign the declaration of the league," said Mr. Eckert, in conversation with The Advertiser. "I am absolutely untrammelled, and that is the way I intend to remain. I refused to subscribe to the doctrines of the league, and indorsement has apparently been refused me."

Neither party would admit that Mr. Eckert's open advocacy of Sunday cars had anything to do with it, but in some quarters that is hinted at. "Mr. Eckert refused to subscribe to our platform," said a member of the league. "That is the reason he is no longer indorsed."

Looks Like Fair Vote.
In other particulars the campaign just closed has shown little variation. There are many guesses as to the outcome, but there are so many currents and counter-currents of opinion (Continued on Page Ten.)

THE GREED OF THE LORDS
DRIVING THEM TO OBLIVION

Powerful Arraignment of the Peers by the Chancellor Lloyd-George in Which He Gives Some More Examples of the Inequalities of Taxation.

(Special to The Advertiser.)

London, Dec. 31.—In refuting the contention of the Conservatives that persistence in the policy of Free Trade created unemployment, David Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, addressing a meeting in Queen's Hall tonight, argued that unemployment is more prevalent in protectionist countries than in England. He cited the United States, which he described as "the protectionists' paradise, where customs officers line the shores like cherubim, with flaming swords keep every foreign-made article out of this garden of Eden, but once inside you find the serpent of hunger, want and unemployment hissing in every grove."

Mr. Lloyd-George quoted statistics showing that in May, 1908, while there was 20 per cent of unemployment in New York States, there was only a seventh per cent in England.

THE GREED OF THE LORDS.

London, Dec. 31.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke three times at Cardiff in one day, and in the evening at Swansea. His first speech was delivered in the afternoon as president of the National Welsh Liberal Convention.

Mr. Lloyd-George, who had a most enthusiastic reception, the audience rising and cheering for several moments, said that on the occasion of the last convention, a little over a year ago, he pointed out that the Liberal Government was not altogether responsible for the fact that a number of important measures had not become acts of Parliament. There was an education bill, so moderate in the final form in which it was offered that the Catholic members of the House of Commons actually voted to disagree with the Lords' amendments. (Hear, hear.) They were on the eve of sending up to the House of Lords a licensing bill.

"You know what happened," he proceeded. "There was a council meeting in the throne room of Lansdowne House—(laughter and cheers)—and the bill was thrown out as the result of that drawing-room meeting. (Hear, hear.) He had a valuation bill, and everybody knows how badly the valuation grievance bears upon the commerce and trade of the country, and how easily it lets off people not engaged in any particular business except that of consumption. (Laughter.) Bills have been rejected; bills have been mutilated. They have done it very skillfully up to the present, but at last the House of Lords has blundered. (Hear, hear.) Greed is the wildest of all chauffeurs, and the House of Lords has dashed madly under the impulse of its driver. (Cheers.) I think they have discovered it, but too late, luckily." (Cheers.)

BIBLE SOCIETY AGENTS
AFTER \$500,000 GIFT

Must Raise \$100,000 in Order to Secure Mrs. Russell Sage's Donation.

New York, Dec. 31.—All over the country today agents of the American Bible Society are working industriously in an effort to raise the last \$100,000 of the sum needed to secure Mrs. Russell Sage's gift of \$500,000 to the society, conditioned upon its raising an equal amount by Jan. 1.

The main office of the organization was greatly encouraged today by the receipt of a check for \$25,000 from Miss Helen Gould, which reduced to \$75,000 the estimated margin between the amount on hand and that needed. Full results of the campaign will probably not be known before Monday. The belief was expressed here today, however, that the needed amount would be forthcoming.

DUTTON ELECTIONS
BY ACCLAMATION

Dutton, Ont., Dec. 31.—In the municipal election for the township of Dutton, which the 1909 reeve, Alexander MacLachlan, and deputy John Drougole have been returned by acclamation.

A Good Deed

Hamilton, Ont.—At a meeting of the Hamilton Commercial Travellers' Guarantee Committee, connected with the successful gala day held some time ago, it was decided to make a New Year's gift of a shack to accommodate six patients to the Hamilton Sanatorium. The building will be named the Hamilton Commercial Travellers' Shack.

COSTLY SEATS ON 'CHANGE.

Montreal, Dec. 31.—Two seats in the Stock Exchange were sold today at \$25,000 each. S. Carley, the departmental store proprietor, bought one, and N. Robison the other.

THE WEATHER
TODAY—MILD.

Toronto, Dec. 31.—The Atlantic coast storm has passed away to the eastward and the weather is now fair from Manitoba to the Maritime Provinces. The temperature has moderated in Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec, while a change to very cold weather has occurred in the far West.

Minimum and maximum temperatures: London, 6-22; Dawson, 16 below; 8 below; Victoria, 24-28; Vancouver, 26-32; Calgary, 8 below-28; Edmonton, 6 below-10; Battleford, zero; Moosejaw, 21-24; Guelph, 18-24; Winnipeg, 2-15; Port Arthur, 4-22; Parry Sound, 5-24; Toronto, 12-28; Ottawa, zero-20; Montreal, zero-18; Quebec, 4 below-5; St. John, 4-14; Halifax, 10-22.

Lower Lake Superior—Bay of Quinte, Valley and Upper St. Lawrence—Southern winds and comparatively mild until Sunday night, then a change to much colder, with high winds.

Lower St. Lawrence and Gulf—Southwest winds; fair and moderately cold. Maritime Provinces—Moderate west and southwest winds; fair weather, with high temperature.

Lake Superior—Southern winds; mild with light snowfalls, followed on Sunday by northwest gales and much colder. Manitoba—Northwest gales and becoming very cold, with snow.

Mr. Balfour's Evasions.

Addressing the members of the Liverpool Reform Club, Premier Asquith made some telling points against the Unionists.

Dealing with the general provisions of the budget, Mr. Asquith said when he was told, as he sometimes was, that this budget was forced upon him by violent and extreme members (laughter) who were supported by some species of magic that he did not profess to understand to hypnotize them (laughter), he said to them, and would say to any audience of his fellow-countrymen, there was not one provision of that budget which he did not from the beginning heartily approve. (Loud cheers.) It was an acknowledged fact that the Lords threw out the budget because they saw if it was once passed it blocked, and effectively blocked, the way to protection and tariff reform. (Loud cheers.)

"What is tariff reform?" Mr. Asquith asked. "Well, gentlemen, we look naturally, and we shall look in vain, for a definition of it to the electoral address of the leader of the Opposition to the citizen of London. (Laughter and cheers.) After now seven sessions, lasting for the lifetime—or the best part of the lifetime—of two Parliaments, Mr. Balfour has successfully evaded all attempts to extract from him an intelligible definition of what is meant by tariff reform. (Laughter and cheers.) And I confess I admire his consistency. (Laughter.) He tells you, indeed, I was today reading through his address again—he tells you what tariff reform will do; the wonders, the miracles that it is going to perform. It will stimulate home industries; it will establish colonial preferences; it will help you to modify commercial treaties; it will keep capital here at home which would otherwise have gone abroad. But when you come to the essence of the whole matter and ask him and seek in his address for the answer to what tariff reform really means you have to be content with a cryptic utterance 'And the other aspects of tariff reform' (Laughter.)

The Great Issue.
"I ask any honest man who is prepared to look facts in the face," Mr. Asquith concluded, "I ask him to say how the House of Lords exercises in a judicial or in an impartial spirit the functions of a second chamber when its political opponents are in power it comforts itself as a supreme authority over the House of Commons?"

"That is the great issue you have got to determine in this election. (Cheers.) Are you going to send us back to Westminster? (Shouts of 'Yes! Yes!') But what for? What for? 'To turn them out?' Are you going to send us back to waste another four years—(loud cries of 'No!')—in idle parades and debate and in the division lobby; or are you going to send us back armed with your authority, not only to be a kind of superior debating society, but to make the laws of this country?" (Enthusiastic cheers.)

Peers Heckled.

Amongst the peers who recently addressed election meetings were the Duke of Norfolk and Lord Willoughby de Broke.

The Duke, speaking at Welbridge, referred to national safety, and asked if, after what took place last spring, it Continued on Page Two.